



HOUSE BILL 721: Counties/Semiannual Assessment Payments.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:	House Finance. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	September 21, 2021
Introduced by:	Reps. Majeed, K. Smith, Hawkins, Belk	Prepared by:	Trina Griffin
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H721-CSSVf-31		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 721 would authorize counties to allow repayment of special assessments in semiannual installments as a collection option and extend the repayment window to 20 years. The PCS makes a clarifying technical change to the effective date.*

CURRENT LAW: Counties are authorized to levy special assessments against property to pay for certain capital improvements that benefit the property, such as improving water or sewer systems, beach erosion, streets, and street lighting.¹ Special assessments are levied in proportion to the benefit received by the property and are levied against the property, rather than the owner.

Special assessments require the county to front the full cost of a project prior to imposing assessments on the benefitted property. The governing board of the local unit may request full payment of assessments within 30 days of confirmation of the assessment or by annual installments (up to 10 years), with interest. If the governing board opts for installment payments, it would have the option of choosing either the date when property taxes are due, or 60 days after the date the assessment roll is confirmed, as the date of the first installment payment.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 721 would further authorize counties to allow repayment of special assessments in semiannual installments as a collection option and extend the timeframe a county could authorize repayment of the assessment to 20 years.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective when it becomes law and would apply to assessment rolls confirmed on or after that date.

Nicholas Giddings, Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.

¹ Article 9 of Chapter 153A.

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